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Spring Season Fresh Market Vegetables Up 3 Percent Processed Vegetable Acreage Down 1 Percent Onion Acreage Up 6 Percent

The prospective area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the spring quarter is forecast at 222,400 acres, up 3 percent from last year. Acreage increased for all forecasted vegetables except for celery which remains unchanged and sweet corn which decreased 3 percent. Melon acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 83,700 acres, up 7 percent from last year. Cantaloup acreage is up 13 percent from a year ago. Watermelon acreage is up 5 percent from 2003. Honeydew melon acreage is down 7 percent. Asparagus acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 53,500 acres, down 20 percent from last year. Strawberry acreage for harvest is forecast at 44,100 acres, up 9 percent from comparable States in 2003.

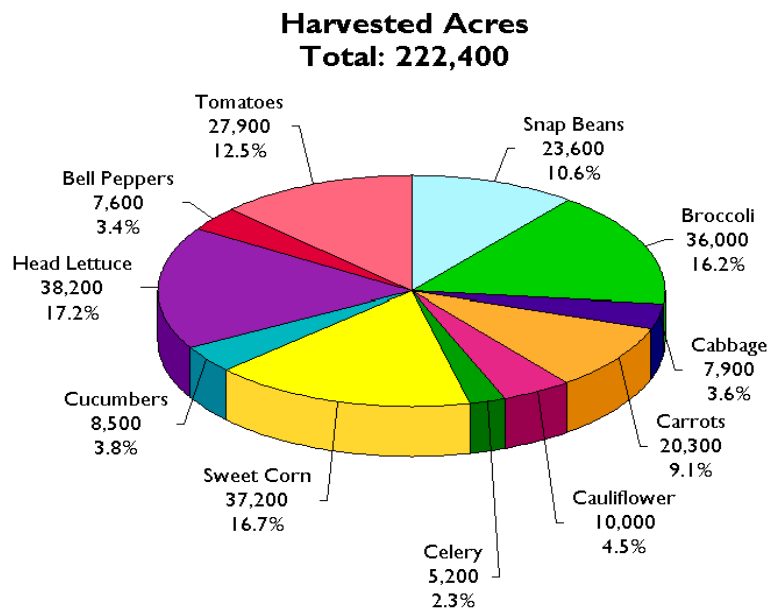
Processors expect to contract 1.27 million acres of the 5 major processed vegetable crops in the U.S. this year, down 1 percent from last year. Acreage decreases are forecast for green peas, snap beans, and sweet corn, while cucumbers for pickles and tomatoes show increases. Freezing firms expect a 3 percent decrease from 2003, with 407,200 acres under contract. Sweet corn acreage for freezing is down 7 percent. However, green pea acreage is up 2 percent from 2003. Snap bean acreage is up 1 percent from last year. Canneries contracted for 859,400 acres, virtually unchanged from 2003. Acreage for snap beans is down 5 percent from last season. Green pea acreage is down 16 percent from a year ago. Cucumbers for pickles increased 18 percent, sweet corn acreage is up 3 percent, and tomato acreage is 1 percent above last year.

Total planted onion acreage for all seasons in 2004 is forecast at 177,270 acres, up 6 percent from last year. Spring onions will be harvested from 37,100 acres in 2004, up 17 percent from 2003. Georgia and Texas combined production is forecast at 6.93 million cwt, 21 percent above last year. Summer non-storage onion planted acreage, at 23,200 acres, is up 2 percent. Total summer onion acreage, at 138,470 acres, is up 5 percent from the previous year.

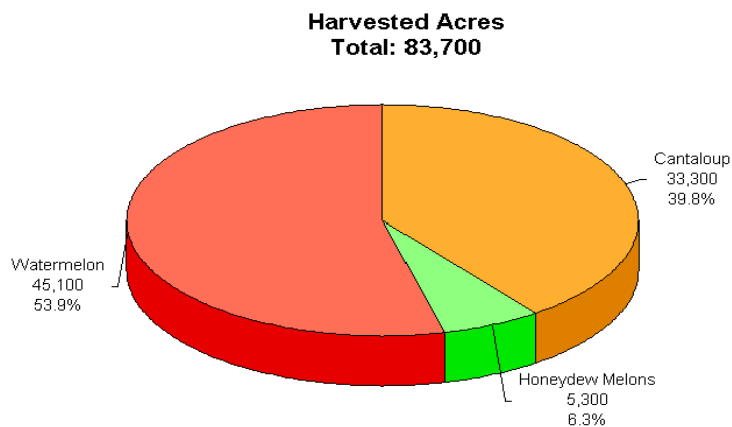
Contents Fresh Market

	Page
By Crops	
Area	4
 Harvested Acres of Selected Vegetables, Melons and Dual Purpose Crops by State	
Asparagus	8
Beans, Snap	6
Broccoli	6
Cabbage	6
Cantaloup	6
Carrots	6
Cauliflower	6
Celery	6
Corn, Sweet	6
Cucumbers	7
Honeydew Melons	7
Lettuce, Head	7
Onions, Spring	8
Peppers, Bell	7
Strawberries	8
Tomatoes	7
Watermelons	7
Planted Acres of Onions, Spring, Summer, Storage and Non-storage	9
Fresh Market Crop Comments	10
Processing	
By Crops	
Area	12
 Principal Vegetables by State	
Beans, Snap	14
Corn, Sweet	15
Cucumbers for Pickles	16
Peas, Green	17
Tomatoes	18
Processing Crop Comments	19

Spring Season Fresh Market Vegetables: 2004



Spring Season Fresh Market Melons: 2004



**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Season,
and Crop, Major States, 2002-2003 and Forecasted Area 2004
(Domestic Units)**

Season and Crop	Area		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2004
	2002	2003	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Winter	183,000	179,900	181,400
Spring			
Snap Beans	23,500	20,900	23,600
Broccoli ¹	33,500	35,000	36,000
Cabbage	7,100	7,100	7,900
Carrots	20,100	19,900	20,300
Cauliflower ¹	9,000	9,500	10,000
Celery ¹	5,200	5,200	5,200
Sweet Corn	38,800	38,300	37,200
Cucumbers	7,100	8,000	8,500
Head Lettuce	36,700	38,100	38,200
Bell Peppers ¹	7,500	7,500	7,600
Tomatoes	27,300	26,800	27,900
Total 11 Vegetables	215,800	216,300	222,400
Cantaloup	28,700	29,400	33,300
Honeydew Melons	5,700	5,700	5,300
Watermelon	47,900	43,100	45,100
Total 3 Melons	82,300	78,200	83,700
Total Spring Crop	298,100	294,500	306,100

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Season,
and Crop, Major States, 2002-2003 and Forecasted Area 2004
(Metric Units)**

Season and Crop	Area		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2004
	2002	2003	
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
Winter	74,060	72,800	73,410
Spring			
Snap Beans	9,510	8,460	9,550
Broccoli ¹	13,560	14,160	14,570
Cabbage	2,870	2,870	3,200
Carrots	8,130	8,050	8,220
Cauliflower ¹	3,640	3,840	4,050
Celery ¹	2,100	2,100	2,100
Sweet Corn	15,700	15,500	15,050
Cucumbers	2,870	3,240	3,440
Head Lettuce	14,850	15,420	15,460
Bell Peppers ¹	3,040	3,040	3,080
Tomatoes	11,050	10,850	11,290
Total 11 Vegetables ²	87,330	87,530	90,000
Cantaloup	11,610	11,900	13,480
Honeydew Melons	2,310	2,310	2,140
Watermelon	19,380	17,440	18,250
Total 3 Melons ²	33,310	31,650	33,870
Total Spring Crop ²	120,640	119,180	123,880

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

² Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Crop, State,
and Total, Spring Season, 2002-2003 and Forecasted Area 2004**

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area		
		Harvested		For Harvest 2004
		2002	2003	
		<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Snap Beans				
FL	Apr-Jun	12,500	11,000	12,600
GA	Apr-Jun	9,500	8,500	9,500
NJ	Jun-Jul	1,500	1,400	1,500
Total		23,500	20,900	23,600
Broccoli ¹				
CA	Apr-Jun	33,500	35,000	36,000
Cabbage				
FL	Apr-Jun	2,000	1,800	1,800
GA	Apr-Jun	3,400	3,600	3,600
NJ	May-Aug	1,100	1,000	1,000
TX	Apr-Jun	600	700	1,500
Total		7,100	7,100	7,900
Cantaloup				
AZ	Apr-Jun	10,200	10,200	13,500
CA	Apr-Jun	10,900	10,900	11,500
GA	Apr-Jun	3,600	4,500	4,800
TX	Apr-Jun	4,000	3,800	3,500
Total		28,700	29,400	33,300
Carrots				
CA	Apr-Jun	19,500	19,000	19,500
TX	Apr-Jun	600	900	800
Total		20,100	19,900	20,300
Cauliflower ¹				
CA	Apr-Jun	9,000	9,500	10,000
Celery ¹				
CA	Apr-Jun	5,200	5,200	5,200
Sweet Corn				
CA	Apr-Jun	11,300	12,300	11,700
FL	Apr-Jul	27,500	26,000	25,500
Total		38,800	38,300	37,200

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Crop, State,
and Total, Spring Season, 2002-2003 and Forecasted Area 2004 (continued)**

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area		
		Harvested		For Harvest 2004
		2002	2003	
		<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Cucumbers				
FL	Apr-Jun	5,500	6,500	6,500
SC	May-Aug	1,200	1,200	1,000
TX	Apr-Jun	400	300	1,000
Total		7,100	8,000	8,500
Honeydew Melons				
CA	Apr-Jun	4,000	4,000	4,000
TX	Apr-Jun	1,700	1,700	1,300
Total		5,700	5,700	5,300
Head Lettuce				
AZ - Other	Mar-Jun	500	500	500
CA	Apr-Jun	35,500	37,000	37,000
NJ	Apr-Jun	700	600	700
Total		36,700	38,100	38,200
Bell Peppers ¹				
FL	Apr-Jul	7,000	7,000	7,300
TX	Apr-Jun	500	500	300
Total		7,500	7,500	7,600
Tomatoes				
CA	Apr-Jun	7,200	6,600	7,500
FL	Apr-Jul	17,000	16,900	16,400
SC	May-Aug	3,100	3,300	4,000
Total		27,300	26,800	27,900
Watermelons				
AZ ²	May-Jul	5,100		
CA	Apr-Jun	2,800	3,100	3,100
FL	Apr-Jul	23,000	24,000	25,000
TX	Apr-Jun	17,000	16,000	17,000
Total		47,900	43,100	45,100

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

² Seasonal estimate discontinued in 2003. Estimate to be published in January 2005 annual.

**Fresh Market Vegetables: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production
by Crop, Season, State, and Total, 2002-2003 and Forecasted 2004**

Crop, Season, and State	Area			Yield per Acre			Production		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
	2002	2003							
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
Asparagus ¹									
Spring									
CA	34,000	36,000	25,000	30	31		1,020	1,116	
MI	15,000	15,000	14,500	15	21		219	317	
WA	17,000	16,000	14,000	37	38		629	608	
Total	66,000	67,000	53,500	28	30		1,868	2,041	
Onions									
Spring ²									
AZ ³	1,500	1,500	1,300	460	500		690	750	
CA ³	6,200	6,700	6,800	475	490		2,945	3,283	
GA	11,500	12,500	16,000	125	175	185	1,438	2,188	2,960
TX	15,000	11,000	13,000	315	320	305	4,725	3,520	3,965
Total	34,200	31,700	37,100	286	307		9,798	9,741	
Straw-berries ¹									
CA	28,500	29,600	33,200	565	620	570	16,097	18,352	18,924
FL	6,900	7,100	7,100	255	220	230	1,760	1,562	1,633
MI	1,200	1,200	1,200	47	53		56	63	
OR	3,000	2,600	2,600	115	115		338	295	
WA ⁴	1,800	1,700		90	90		162	153	
Major States Total	41,400	42,200	44,100	445	484		18,413	20,425	

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

² Primarily fresh market.

³ First forecast will be published July 9, 2004.

⁴ Seasonal estimate discontinued. Estimate to be published in January 2005 annual.

**Onions: Area Planted by Season, State, and United States,
2002-2003 and Forecasted Area 2004**

Season and State	Area Planted		
	2002	2003	2004
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Spring ¹			
AZ	1,600	1,500	1,300
CA	6,400	6,900	7,000
GA	14,700	14,000	16,300
TX	16,200	12,800	14,200
Total	38,900	35,200	38,800
Summer ¹			
Non-storage			
CA	7,500	7,800	7,700
NV	3,300	3,100	3,200
NM	8,100	7,700	7,400
TX	3,000	2,700	3,400
WA ²	1,100	1,400	1,500
Total	23,000	22,700	23,200
Storage			
CA ³	31,500	34,500	33,000
CO	12,500	10,500	12,000
ID	8,100	8,400	9,400
MI	4,000	3,700	3,800
MN	280	280	270
NY	12,700	12,100	12,500
OH	470	380	400
OR			
Malheur	12,000	12,200	13,000
Other	5,400	6,500	8,000
UT	2,200	1,900	1,800
WA	16,000	16,000	19,000
WI	2,100	2,100	2,100
Total	107,250	108,560	115,270
Total Summer	130,250	131,260	138,470
US	169,150	166,460	177,270

¹ Primarily fresh market.

² Includes Walla Walla and other non-storage onions.

³ Primarily dehydrated and other processing.

Fresh Market Crop Comments

Asparagus: Intended acreage for harvest is forecast at 53,500 acres, down 20 percent from 2003. Acreage in California decreased 31 percent due to growers removing their oldest, least productive fields from production without replanting in response to foreign competition from Mexico and Peru. Harvest in California's Imperial Valley began early as warm temperatures accelerated crop maturity. Northern California growers were delayed at the start of the season by chilling temperatures and rain, but warmer weather in March helped the crop progress and harvest is now active. Michigan's crop wintered well and is looking good. Washington's weather conditions this winter were mild.

Snap Beans: Acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 23,600 acres, up 13 percent from last year. Florida growers are harvesting the winter acreage and will soon start on the spring crop. No major problems have been reported. Georgia snap beans are in good to fair condition with the crop in need of rain. New Jersey snap beans were planted on schedule and recent mild temperatures have benefitted the crop.

Broccoli: California's acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 36,000 acres, up 3 percent from 2003. Planting was on schedule but cool weather in February delayed development. No major pests or disease problems are reported at this time.

Cabbage: Acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 7,900 acres, up 11 percent from last year. Florida's crop is on schedule with no major problems reported. In Georgia, the crop is in good condition. Growing conditions for the early cabbage crop in New Jersey are normal. Texas growers are having a very good season. Planting in ongoing and harvest recently began in some areas. Crop quality is excellent.

Cantaloup: Acreage intended for harvest is forecast at 33,300 acres, up 13 percent from 2003. Arizona's crop was planted during January and February. Above average temperatures from late February through March have set the melon harvest one to two weeks ahead of schedule. California's cantaloup crop is progressing well with no major problems reported. Growers continue weed treatment on melon acreage. The Georgia crop is in need of rain and is reported in good to fair condition. Weather in Texas has remained mild and melon growers are expecting a good season.

Carrots: Acreage for harvest is forecast at 20,300 acres, up 2 percent from last year. In California, crop quality is good with close to ideal growing conditions. Baby carrots continue to be in high demand.

Cauliflower: California's acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 10,000 acres, 5 percent above 2003. Weather has been favorable and development is normal. Cool temperatures during February have not delayed progress of the crop. No major pest or disease problems have been reported.

Celery: California's acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 5,200 acres, unchanged from last year. The spring crop is on schedule with harvest expected to begin in early June. No pest or disease problems are evident at this time.

Sweet Corn: Intended acreage for harvest is forecast at 37,200 acres, down 3 percent from a year ago. The California crop is doing very well despite the grocery worker strike in the Los Angeles area which delayed planting in the Imperial Valley. Florida is having a normal season with no major problems reported.

Cucumbers: Spring harvested acreage is forecast at 8,500 acres, up 6 percent from 2003. No major problems have been reported for the Florida crop. In Texas, conditions have been favorable this season and growers expect a good crop.

Honeydew Melons: Acreage for harvest is forecast at 5,300 acres, down 7 percent from 2003. California's melon crop is progressing well. Weed treatment on fields continues. No major problems have been reported thus far. In general, the weather in Texas has been mild and the honeydew crop is progressing well.

Head Lettuce: Intended acreage for harvest is forecast at 38,200 acres, virtually unchanged from 2003. The Arizona crop is progressing rapidly due to warm weather during March. Harvest has begun and is progressing quickly. In California, planting of Salinas Valley lettuce is on schedule and a normal harvest is expected. The Huron district is expected to begin harvesting by the end of March. Recent warm weather in the Central Valley has accelerated crop maturity in that area. Demand has increased for lettuce based on dietary trends and changes in food service buying. In New Jersey, a cold snap in late March damaged some early planted fields. Wet conditions delayed some field preparation and planting, but a near normal season is expected.

Spring Onions: Producers intend to harvest 37,100 acres, up 17 percent from last year. Planting activities for California's spring crop last fall went well with no problems reported. Winter and spring conditions have been wet and cool. However, recent warm temperatures have stimulated growth. In Georgia, the crop is doing well and disease problems are minimal. Growers are actively irrigating and harvest will begin in early April and is expected to peak by the end of April. Texas onions are doing very well. Milder weather and limited cold spells have made for optimum growing conditions.

Summer Non-Storage Onions: Non-storage planted acreage is 23,200 acres, up 2 percent from last year. The California summer onion crop was planted with no major problems reported. Mild temperatures and recent rains have helped the crop to progress. Most acreage in Nevada has been seeded and sprinkler irrigation is being applied. Surface flood irrigation is just beginning in the Yerington area. New Mexico planting is nearly complete. Moisture conditions over the winter were above average but not sufficient to make up for several years of drought conditions. Therefore, irrigation water has been limited for the second year in a row. The Texas summer onion crop is doing well due to milder weather conditions and limited cold spells. Washington onion growers expect this years' crop to be on schedule. Winter conditions were moderate and over wintered onions were able to survive.

Summer Storage Onions: Storage planted acreage is 115,270 acres, up 6 percent from 2003. California acreage, which is primarily dehydrated or otherwise processed, is forecast at 33,000 acres, down 4 percent from 2003. The California storage onion crop was planted without any major problems. Mild temperatures in addition to recent rains have helped crop development. Colorado growers are planting but water availability could be an issue as the season progresses. The growing regions of Colorado are very dry at this time and mountain snow pack is below average across the State. Most of Idaho's onion acreage has been planted at this time. New York acreage has increased from last year due to good planting conditions. Eastern Oregon continues in a long dry spell. The Utah onion crop is down 5 percent from a year ago. Drought conditions continue and the water situation is uncertain. Utah growers have begun planting and are expecting a good year as long as there is enough irrigation water. In Washington, above average precipitation this season is making growers optimistic that moisture levels can recover from drier than normal conditions during the past two years.

Bell Peppers: Acreage for harvest is forecast at 7,600 acres, up 1 percent from 2003. Florida's harvest is under way and will continue throughout the spring season. No major problems have been reported. Texas bell pepper acreage is down due to competition from Mexico.

Strawberries: Acreage intended for harvest is forecast at 44,100 acres, up 9 percent from last year's comparable States. California's acreage for harvest is forecast at 33,200 acres, up 12 percent from 2003. Acreage is up in all major growing districts in California this year. Rainfall was reported below normal throughout Southern California and most of the water for irrigation was imported from the northern part of the State. Powerful winds hit the Oxnard area during the beginning of February which damaged some fruit. Cooler temperatures delayed the season, but warmer temperatures in March helped strengthen the plants. Early season berries have good size, color, and quality. Production has returned to a typical pace. In Florida, freezing temperatures slowed production for a week early in the season but no other major problems were reported. Harvest began in late November and should be finished in early April. The Michigan strawberry crop is in good condition. There was adequate snow cover through mid-March. A recent cold snap has growers concerned though damage is expected to be minimal. Oregon's strawberry crop looks good at this time. Frost damage this season is expected to be minimal.

Tomatoes: Acreage for harvest is forecast at 27,900 acres, up 4 percent from 2003. In California, rainfall and wet soil conditions slowed field activity in early March but by the middle of the month, work had increased to a more normal pace. No pest or disease problems have been reported thus far. Florida's weather has been normal this year and no major problems have been reported.

Watermelons: Acreage intended for harvest is forecast at 45,100 acres, up 5 percent from last year. California's melon crop is progressing well with no major problems reported. Planting in Florida started in late February and early March with picking expected to begin in late May. Texas weather conditions have been excellent.

**Processing Vegetables: Prospective Plantings and Production by Crop
and Expected Utilization, United States, 2002-2003 and Forecasted 2004
(Domestic Units)**

Utilization and Crop	Area Planted			
	2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
All Processing				
Snap Beans	221,300	199,600	198,300	190,900
Sweet Corn	444,700	447,100	444,800	435,800
Cucumbers for				
Pickles	120,800	120,900	84,700	100,000
Green Peas	223,700	244,800	244,800	230,500
Tomatoes	317,100	309,830	306,730	309,400
Total	1,327,600	1,322,230	1,279,330	1,266,600
Canning				
Snap Beans	154,600	142,200	141,600	133,900
Sweet Corn	221,300	222,600	220,300	226,000
Cucumbers for				
Pickles	120,800	120,900	84,700	100,000
Green Peas	98,300	106,700	106,700	90,100
Tomatoes	317,100	309,830	306,730	309,400
Total Canning	912,100	902,230	860,030	859,400
Freezing				
Snap Beans	66,700	57,400	56,700	57,000
Sweet Corn	223,400	224,500	224,500	209,800
Green Peas	125,400	138,100	138,100	140,400
Total Freezing	415,500	420,000	419,300	407,200
	Production			
	2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
Tomatoes	11,656,820	9,812,110	9,698,070	11,533,440

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

**Processing Vegetables: Prospective Plantings and Production by Crop
and Expected Utilization, United States, 2002-2003 and Forecasted 2004
(Metric Units)**

Utilization and Crop	Area Planted			
	2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
All Processing				
Snap Beans	89,560	80,780	80,250	77,260
Sweet Corn	179,970	180,940	180,010	176,360
Cucumbers for				
Pickles	48,890	48,930	34,280	40,470
Green Peas	90,530	99,070	99,070	93,280
Tomatoes	128,330	125,390	124,130	125,210
Total ²	537,270	535,090	517,730	512,580
Canning				
Snap Beans	62,570	57,550	57,300	54,190
Sweet Corn	89,560	90,080	89,150	91,460
Cucumbers for				
Pickles	48,890	48,930	34,280	40,470
Green Peas	39,780	43,180	43,180	36,460
Tomatoes	128,330	125,390	124,130	125,210
Total Canning ²	369,120	365,120	348,050	347,790
Freezing				
Snap Beans	26,990	23,230	22,950	23,070
Sweet Corn	90,410	90,850	90,850	84,900
Green Peas	50,750	55,890	55,890	56,820
Total Freezing ²	168,150	169,970	169,690	164,790
	Production			
	2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>
Tomatoes	10,574,830	8,901,350	8,797,900	10,462,910

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

² Totals may not add due to rounding. Utilizations may not add to total crop because of rounding.

**Snap Beans for Processing: Area Planted and Contracted
by State and United States, and Utilization by United States,
2002-2003 and Forecasted Area 2004**

State and Utilization	Area Planted			
	2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
DE		2,900	2,900	
IL	22,400	17,100	16,700	13,700
IN	6,200	6,500	6,500	5,700
MD		1,400	1,400	2,400
MI	16,700	14,800	14,800	16,900
NY	21,700	23,700	22,900	23,000
OR	18,700	16,500	16,500	18,000
PA	7,600	7,900	7,900	9,500
VA		1,000	900	
WI	79,800	72,000	72,000	68,800
Oth Sts ^{2 3}	48,200	35,800	35,800	32,900
US	221,300	199,600	198,300	190,900
Canning	154,600	142,200	141,600	133,900
Freezing	66,700	57,400	56,700	57,000

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

² 2002 - AR, CA, DE, FL, GA, MD, MN, MO, NJ, NC, TX, and VA.

2003 - AR, CA, FL, GA, MN, MO, NJ, NC, and TX.

2004 - CA, DE, FL, GA, MN, NJ, NC, TX, and VA.

³ Seasonal forecasts for AR and MO are not available. Estimates to be published in the January 2005 annual.

**Sweet Corn for Processing: Area Planted and Contracted
by State and United States, and Utilization by United States,
2002-2003 and Forecasted Area 2004**

State and Utilization	Area Planted			
	2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
DE		18,100	18,100	9,900
IL	16,100			
MD		5,500	5,500	5,500
MN	148,000	142,200	142,200	138,400
NY	17,600	16,300	16,300	18,500
OR	33,000	31,000	31,000	29,100
PA	1,400	1,200	1,200	1,500
WA	97,700	101,500	101,500	94,900
WI	92,100	93,400	91,100	102,700
Oth Sts ²	38,800	37,900	37,900	35,300
US	444,700	447,100	444,800	435,800
Canning	221,300	222,600	220,300	226,000
Freezing	223,400	224,500	224,500	209,800

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

² 2002 - DE, ID, IA, MD, NJ, and TN.
2003 - ID, IL, IA, NJ, and TN.
2004 - ID, IL, IA, NJ, and TN.

**Cucumbers for Pickles: Area Planted and Contracted by State
and United States, 2002-2003 and Forecated Area 2004**

State	Area Planted			
	2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
FL	6,500	6,500	1,000	6,400
IN	1,600	1,700	1,700	1,900
MD		4,300	4,300	3,900
MI	35,500	34,000	20,500	27,500
NC	18,500	17,600	9,600	8,900
OH	2,500	2,300	2,100	2,900
SC	3,900	4,500	4,300	4,100
TX	11,500	8,500	3,600	10,000
WI	5,800	5,600	5,100	4,500
Oth Sts ^{2 3}	35,000	35,900	32,500	29,900
US	120,800	120,900	84,700	100,000

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

² 2002 - AL, CA, DE, GA, MD, MA, MO, and WA.

2003 - AL, CA, DE, GA, MA, MO, and WA.

2004 - AL, CA, DE, GA, MA, and MO.

³ Seasonal forecasts for WA are not available. Estimates to be published in the January 2005 annual.

**Green Peas for Processing: Area Planted and Contracted by State
and United States, and Utilization by United States,
2002-2003 and Forecasted Area 2004**

State and Utilization	Area Planted			
	2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
DE		7,500	7,500	7,400
MN	80,500	88,700	88,700	79,500
NY	16,300	17,000	17,000	22,200
OR	20,300	22,400	22,400	15,800
WA	37,600	45,500	45,500	47,000
WI	42,100	39,600	39,600	33,700
Oth Sts ²	26,900	24,100	24,100	24,900
US	223,700	244,800	244,800	230,500
Canning	98,300	106,700	106,700	90,100
Freezing	125,400	138,100	138,100	140,400

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

² 2002 - CA, DE, ID, IL, MD, and NJ.

2003 - CA, ID, IL, MD, and NJ.

2004 - CA, ID, IL, MD, and NJ.

**Tomatoes for Processing: Area Planted and Production
by State and United States, 2002-2003 and Forecasted 2004**

State	Area Planted			
	2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
CA	296,000	289,000	286,000	291,000
IN	8,200	8,400	8,400	7,900
MI	3,300	3,200	3,200	3,300
NJ				1,000
OH	6,400	6,400	6,300	6,200
Oth Sts ^{2 3}	3,200	2,830	2,830	
US	317,100	309,830	306,730	309,400
	Production			
	2002 Total	2003		2004 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
CA	11,056,000	9,252,000	9,141,000	11,000,000
IN	256,450	202,290	202,290	234,020
MI	112,000	117,800	117,800	107,000
NJ				27,820
OH	149,630	173,280	170,240	164,600
Oth Sts ^{2 3}	82,740	66,740	66,740	
US	11,656,820	9,812,110	9,698,070	11,533,440

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

² 2002 - MD, NJ, and PA.

2003 - MD, NJ, and PA.

³ Seasonal forecasts for MD are not available. Estimates to be published in the January 2005 annual.

Processing Crop Comments

Growers of vegetables for processing intend to plant 1.27 million acres in 2004, down 1 percent from 2003. Decreased acreage for green peas, snap beans, and sweet corn offsets increased acreage for cucumbers for pickles and tomatoes. Acreage for freezing, at 407,200 acres, is down 3 percent. Acreage for canning, forecast at 859,400 acres, is virtually unchanged from 2003.

Snap Beans: Processors contracted to plant 190,900 acres of snap beans, down 4 percent from last year. Contracted acreage for freezing, at 57,000 acres, is up 1 percent from 2003. Contracted acreage for canning, at 133,900 acres, is down 5 percent from 2003. Planting in California has progressed normally with no major pest or disease problems reported. In Florida, harvest of the winter season acreage is continuing and harvest of the spring crop is expected to begin shortly. No major problems have been reported. Illinois growers expect to begin planting during the last week of April. Indiana experienced frequent snow showers and ice during February which limited field preparations. Planting has not yet begun. North Carolina growers should begin planting in April with the next warm period after fields dry out from recent rains. Some Texas acreage was replanted because of damage from colder weather in January. Acreage in Texas has increased this season as growers reduce spinach acreage in favor of planting snap beans. Virginia growers are preparing to plant. In Wisconsin, contracts are being finalized but fieldwork has not yet begun.

Sweet Corn: Contract intentions call for 435,800 acres of sweet corn in 2004, down 2 percent from last year. Contracted acreage for freezing, at 209,800 acres, is 7 percent less than last year's total. Contracted acreage for canning, at 226,000 acres, is 3 percent more than 2003. Idaho growers have not yet begun planting. Water supplies are a major concern for growers this year. Minnesota weather has been typical during the past month. Snow cover has diminished under warmer temperatures and soil moisture is adequate due to an above average amount of snowfall during the winter. Fieldwork has not yet begun but growers are anxious to get the crop started. Wisconsin growers have not begun planting.

Cucumbers for Pickles: Pickle packers intend to contract 100,000 acres of cucumbers for pickles, up 18 percent from last year. Contract acreage increases are forecast for Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, and Texas. In Alabama, planting, which normally begins around mid-April, is expected to be delayed due to the lack of rainfall. Field preparation in California was delayed by wet soil conditions but eventually got underway as temperatures became warmer. The Georgia crop is in good condition at this time but more rainfall is needed. Indiana field preparations were limited by snow showers and ice in February. Planting of vegetables will not begin until conditions become warmer and drier. Planting in North Carolina should begin in April after fields dry out and temperatures increase. Weather in Texas has been favorable. Pickling cucumbers have remained the number one production use of cucumbers in Texas. Wisconsin growers are still working out contracts. The crop has not yet been planted.

Green Peas: Green peas are forecast at 230,500 acres in 2004, down 6 percent from 2003. Acreage was below last year in Oregon, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Delaware, where acreage was down 29 percent, 15 percent, 10 percent, and 1 percent, respectively. Increases of 31 percent for New York and 3 percent for Washington were noted. Contracted acreage for freezing, at 140,400 acres, is 2 percent more than last year. Contracted acreage for canning, at 90,100 acres, is 16 percent below 2003. Minnesota weather has been typical during the past month. Snow cover has diminished under warmer temperatures and soil moisture is adequate, but fieldwork has not yet begun. Planting of green peas in Washington has not yet begun but is expected to get under way in early April. California growers report ideal growing conditions and high yields are anticipated as a result. Idaho planting operations are not yet under way and water supplies are a major concern for growers. Fieldwork has not yet begun in Wisconsin.

Tomatoes for Canning: Contracts with growers cover 309,400 acres in 2004, up 1 percent from last year. Contract production at 11.53 million tons is 19 percent above 2003. California production is forecast at 11.0 million tons, up 20 percent from 2003. In California, planting of processing tomatoes is now well underway in the Central Valley. Field preparations were hindered earlier in the year by rainfall and wet soil conditions. Previously planted fields are exhibiting good growth so far. Indiana growers conducted limited field preparations during February due to snow showers and ice. However, fertilizer was applied in a few areas of the State. Planting has not yet begun.

The next "*Vegetables*" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on July 9, 2004.

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